

(a) whether it is a fact that a good number of vacant posts in Group D in the reserved categories of SCs, STs and OBCs have been lying vacant in various banks i.e. State Bank of Patiala, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Canara Bank and Bank of Baroda in their Delhi/New Delhi offices since long; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government concerned authorities to fill up the said reserved vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) As per reports received from the banks mentioned in part (a) of the Question, the position of backlog are as follows :-

	Backlog in the Category of		
	SCs	STs	OBCs
State Bank of Patiala	3	4	5
Oriental Bank of Commerce	2	—	9
Canara Bank	2	4	20
Bank of Baroda	—	—	3

Necessary action for filling up the backlog vacancies in these categories have already been initiated by Oriental Bank of Commerce and State Bank of Patiala. The other two banks have reported that they are also taking necessary action for filling up these vacancies during the current year.

[Translation]

Fund for Construction of Chambers in Supreme Court

1572. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any scheme for welfare of advocates and betterment of the legal profession;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the amount earmarked therefor during the current financial year;

(c) whether the amount earmarked for the purpose is being utilised for construction of additional chambers for the advocates in Supreme Court;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Cases against Additional Session Judges

1573. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of on going cases in Tis Hazari Court in which Additional Session Judges are them-selves involved;

(b) if so, whether the Government expect a Sub-Ordinate Civil Judge to give verdict against his superior in the interest of justice when the ADJ's are working in the same court; and

(c) if not, the step taken by the Government to ensure justice in such cases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Commercialisation of Ganga Water

1574. SHRI KACHARU BHARU RAUT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ganga water is being commercialised and a number of companies are engaged in filling up the bottles with Ganga water for sale and export;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) to (c) Government is aware of sale of Ganga water in the traditional form. Bottling and export through commercial companies has been reported in the press. Under the current Export Import Policy, there are no restrictions on export of mineral waters and aerated waters (ITC HS Code : 22011000) and other water (including natural waters - ITC HS code : 22019009.

[English]

Import of Virgin Polymers

1575. SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that virgin polymers are imported under the declaration of scrap or recycled plastics at Kandla port; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b) No import of virgin polymers declared as scrap or recycled plastics at Kandla port has been noticed.

Jute Corporation of India

1576. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have fixed support price of raw jute for the current year;